

Obituary

JAMES YOUNG, D.S.O., M.D., F.R.C.S.Ed.
F.R.C.O.G.

Professor James Young, who died on May 14 at the age of 80, was formerly professor of obstetrics and gynaecology in the University of London and director of the Obstetrical and Gynaecological Unit at the British Postgraduate Medical School, Hammersmith, Hospital.

James Young was born in Edinburgh on April 24, 1883, and was educated at George Heriot's School and at Edinburgh University, where he graduated M.B., Ch.B. with first-class honours in 1905. He proceeded to the M.D. in 1910 and was awarded a gold medal for his thesis. In 1908



he was admitted to the Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh, and in 1929 he was elected a foundation fellow of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. After qualification James Young held several resident hospital appointments in Edinburgh, after which he was tutor in gynaecology before being appointed to the honorary gynaecological staff of the Royal Infirmary and to the honorary obstetrical staff of the Royal Maternity and Simpson Memorial Hospital, Edinburgh.

In 1934 he was appointed as the first occupant of the chair of obstetrics and gynaecology at the British Postgraduate Medical School, London, and remained there until he retired in 1950.

Professor Young was an honorary fellow and past president of the Edinburgh Obstetrical Society; an honorary fellow of the American Association of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists; a corresponding fellow of the German Gynaecological Society; a fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine, London; and a member of the Visiting Gynaecological Society of Great Britain and Ireland. He served as a governor of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund and was chairman of the Scientific Advisory Committee of the National Birthday Trust.

Young had a distinguished record in the first world war. He served in Gallipoli, Egypt, Palestine, and France from 1915 to 1919, attaining the rank of lieutenant-colonel; he was awarded the D.S.O. and was twice mentioned in dispatches. Some of his wartime experiences are recorded in a book, *With the 52nd Division in Three Continents* (1919).

James Young started contributing to the literature of his specialty at an early age and there are few aspects of the subject about which he has not written. Probably his most important contribution was his work on the toxæmias of pregnancy. The views he expressed on the aetiology of pre-eclampsia have been assailed but never completely refuted. His thesis, "Reproduction in the Human Female," was published in book form and his *Textbook of Gynaecology*, of which there were eleven editions, was widely read and valued. In collaboration he wrote the *Combined Textbook of Obstetrics and Gynaecology* and *Practical Gynaecology for Nurses and Students*. He was a deep thinker, never satisfied with the superficial, and during the whole of his professional life was a prolific and scrupulous writer, his work being characterized by its total lack of any ambiguity. Over many years and until a few weeks before

his death he was the editor of the *Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology of the British Commonwealth*. He also gave valuable service on many B.M.A. committees, represented his Division at the Annual Meetings of 1928-30, 1932, and 1934, and was chairman of the Edinburgh and Leith Division in 1933-4.

Professor Young had a lovable personality which was at times concealed by a somewhat detached manner. He was an idealist who set his standards high and an enthusiastic worker who commanded the respect and affection of all his colleagues. Many students, particularly those from overseas, will always remember his acts of kindness, for he was ever ready to give advice and help. His gifts as a writer and thinker were of a high order and he derived great pleasure and satisfaction in helping young men in their literary efforts. His work was his main interest, and in this he had the loyal support and help of a devoted and happy family circle. He was an assiduous reader of the classics and was deeply interested in music, an interest fostered and shared by his music-loving family. He enjoyed a game of golf, which he always maintained was his only form of exercise, and in later years was an enthusiastic bird-watcher. He is survived by his wife, his daughter, his stepdaughter, and his two stepsons.—T. N. MacG.

A. J. SHINNIE, O.B.E., M.D., D.P.H.

Dr. A. J. Shinnie, who was for almost 30 years medical officer of health for the City of Westminster, died on May 10, aged 77.

Andrew James Shinnie was born in Aberdeen on February 16, 1886. He received his medical education at the University there, graduating in 1908 and proceeding to the M.D. in 1912. After holding hospital appointments in Aberdeen, Glasgow, and London he entered the public health service as assistant medical officer of health for Surrey County Council in 1913. The following year he took the D.P.H. In 1916 he moved to Westminster City Council and was to remain there until his retirement in 1953, being medical officer of health from 1924. In 1926 he was also appointed lecturer in public health to Westminster Hospital Medical School and he became a member of the school's governing committee and of the governing body of the hospital. At Charing Cross Hospital he was a member of the house committee, and he served on other committees of bodies connected with Westminster. He was also a member of the Catering Trade Working Party, and of the Committee set up under the chairmanship of Sir Ernest Gowers to inquire into the problems of health, welfare, and safety in non-industrial employment. This committee reported in 1949, and a Bill designed to implement its findings is now before Parliament. A fellow of the Society of Medical Officers of Health, he was president of its Metropolitan Branch in 1936-7. Dr. Shinnie was appointed O.B.E. in 1951 in recognition of his many public services and in 1952 received the Smith award from the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene, awarded "to a medical officer of health recognized as having done the most noteworthy work in the discharge of his official duties."

During his long service as M.O.H. at Westminster Dr. Shinnie guided the great development which took place in the personal health services—between the wars a development which was fostered not only by the City Council but also by the Westminster Health Society, which had been active since 1903 and had pioneered as a voluntary body in fields afterwards covered by statutory services. In this as in other directions he showed himself a strong supporter of voluntary effort, free from the bureaucratic spirit and always ready to help those who sought assistance or advice. Needless to say, he was also active in the more established parts of public-health work, tackling the problems of housing, food hygiene, and the control of infectious disease with energy and foresight.

Dr. Shinnie had all the shrewdness and clarity of expression which one associates with the best of Scottish

medical graduates, and with a great depth of kindness and understanding which were manifested in his dealings with colleagues, staff, and others with whom he came in touch. He did much work for the Society for the Relief of Widows and Orphans of Medical Men, of which he was for many years a vice-president, regularly attending the meetings of the court of directors even when his health was failing. This was a cause to which he was devoted and to which he gave of his best.

His wife died in 1961. He is survived by a daughter and by a son who is professor of archaeology in the University College of Ghana.

J. O. M. REES, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

A prominent member of the profession in Surrey, Dr. J. O. M. Rees, Fellow of the B.M.A., died on May 10 at his home in Guildford. He was 62 years of age.

Born on September 13, 1900, John Oswald Morgan Rees was educated at University College, Cardiff, and at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London. He took the B.Sc. in 1920 and qualified M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. in 1923.

Having held an appointment as deputy medical superintendent at St. Nicholas Hospital, Woolwich, he came to Guildford in 1928 as medical superintendent of Warren Road Hospital, later renamed St. Luke's. He worked to improve the conditions and facilities available at this hospital, and during the ten years while he was in charge he achieved considerable success. He was also appointed consultant obstetric surgeon for the Borough of Guildford.

In general practice in Guildford since 1938, he specially appreciated private practice because the doctor-patient relationship was not disturbed by the intrusion of the State or the local authority. His kindness, human understanding, and courtesy made him popular with both patients and medical colleagues. He was very critical of the National Health Service Act, believing that it would virtually create a State monopoly in medicine and would ultimately destroy professional freedom. He served as honorary secretary of the Guildford Division of the B.M.A. for ten years and subsequently as chairman during the stormy debates that preceded the establishment of the N.H.S. He was president of the Surrey Branch in 1957-8, when his presidential address bore the significant title "Professional Freedom." During 1950-1 and 1953-61 he was a member of the Council of the B.M.A., and other committees on which he served included those of Private Practice, Amending Acts, and General Practice Review. He was made a Fellow of the B.M.A. in 1959. He gave his full support to the special objects of the Fellowship for Freedom in Medicine, founded by the late Lord Horder in 1948, and he had been a member of the executive of the Fellowship since its inception. John Rees was a valuable member of a committee. In his inimitable manner he would often remain silent during long discussions, then would look up with a smile and make a whimsical remark, just audible, which would reveal his clear grasp of the question and his appreciation of the difficulties to be surmounted.

He is survived by his wife, who has always shared his interest in public affairs, and to her we all offer our deep sympathy.—C. P. W.

**R. S. MILLER, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., L.A.H.
D.M.R.D.**

Dr. R. S. Miller, consultant radiologist to the Wigan and Leigh group of hospitals, died on April 28 at the early age of 35.

Ronald Sims Miller was born on August 27, 1927. He received his medical education at Liverpool University, qualifying with the Conjoint diploma in 1953 and in the same year becoming a licentiate of the Apothecaries' Hall, Dublin. After house appointments he became senior radiological registrar at Walton Hospital in his home town of

Liverpool, and in 1956 took the D.M.R.D. He was a member of both the Faculty of Radiologists and the British Institute of Radiology, and contributed (jointly) a paper on lung changes in an influenza epidemic to the *British Journal of Radiology*. In addition, he was co-author of *Radiographic Index*, a pocket-book for radiographers.

His interests extended outside radiology, and apart from having a detailed knowledge of photography he was an accomplished pianist. He was one of the most unassuming of men, yet his cheerful personality made him extremely popular with patients and staff alike. He will be sorely missed by his friends and colleagues, and our heartfelt sympathy goes out to his young widow Irene.—M. G.

MARJORIE E. F. SANDERS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.M.

Dr. Marjorie Sanders, who died on April 9 after a long illness, was descended from four generations of Edinburgh medical men. Her great-grandfather, James Sanders, was author of a work on digitalis which in some ways anticipated modern usage of the drug. Her grandfather, William Ritherford Sanders, was physician and professor of pathology at the University of Edinburgh. And her father, Gordon Sanders, himself an Edinburgh medical graduate, practised for many years at Cannes on the French Riviera.

Marjorie Elizabeth Frances Sanders graduated at Edinburgh University in 1921 and held house appointments at the Edinburgh Maternity Hospital and the Royal Edinburgh Hospital for Sick Children before turning to psychiatry as her chosen specialty. In those days the higher pay of mental-hospital medical officers was an important consideration for her, but she became devoted to the work of caring for the mentally ill. She was first at Severalls Hospital, Colchester, from 1924 to 1928. She then entered the L.C.C. mental hospitals service, working for eight years at Long Grove Hospital, Epsom. In 1941 she was moved to Cane Hill Hospital, Coulsdon, and thence seconded to a succession of posts as psychiatrist in charge at various observation wards in the London area. This was at the time of the bombing raids, and more than once she had to start afresh in makeshift surroundings because of bomb damage. With the onset of peace, she came to rest as psychiatrist in charge at St. Francis Hospital, East Dulwich, where she was latterly—and very belatedly—given consultant status. From the inauguration of the N.H.S. some of the teaching on acute psychiatry was carried out at St. Francis by visiting consultants in co-operation with Dr. Sanders. She also was responsible for supervision of Maudsley registrars seconded for experience of observation unit work. A number of ex-Maudsley psychiatrists will remember with affectionate gratitude her unflinching kindness and interest in her colleagues, nursing staff, and patients, and her warm enthusiasm tempered but never chilled by sound clinical judgment.

She was suffering during these years from increasingly crippling post-encephalitic parkinsonism. This led to her retirement in 1956 and several years of more complete invalidism ensued. To the end her clarity of mind, her uncomplaining good-humour, and her keen interest in others continued to make her friendship a rare privilege.—F. R. C. C.

**JOHN W. WHITTICK, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B.
M.R.C.V.S.**

Dr. John W. Whittick, formerly pathologist to the Royal Cancer (now Marsden) Hospital, London, died suddenly of a heart attack at Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada, on April 18. He was aged 48.

John William Whittick was born on June 16, 1914. He graduated B.Sc. in veterinary medicine at Edinburgh University in 1937 and then proceeded to the medical course. This was soon interrupted by the onset of severe diabetes,

but with characteristic determination and with the loyal help of his wife Sandra, who was a teacher, he completed the course and graduated M.B., Ch.B. in 1946. After short periods as assistant pathologist to the Christie Hospital, Manchester, and at the Hill End Hospital, St. Albans, he was appointed assistant pathologist to the Royal Cancer Hospital, where he succeeded as senior pathologist in 1950. In 1957 he was invited to the post of pathologist to the Grey Nuns' Hospital in Regina, and he and his wife made the difficult decision to accept this invitation and migrate with their young family to Canada. Here he worked hard and happily until his tragically early death.

John Whittick was of retiring disposition, averse to all forms of display and self-advertisement, and too little known to his fellow pathologists—at least in Great Britain—though those few who were privileged to know him intimately soon appreciated his high professional and personal qualities. He was a morbid anatomist of the first rank, a scrupulously careful and painstaking worker whose records of his findings are models of completeness, accuracy, and clarity, and a wide and up-to-date reader in his subject and its history. His few publications are a wholly inadequate index of his innate capacity as an inquirer. He made many valuable studies—worthy of publication—on a variety of subjects, but most of these studies were with characteristic generosity and modesty given away, while some others—for example, those on kerato-acanthoma and on renal tumours in hamsters—were published with collaborators. Outside pathology John Whittick's main hobby was ceramics. During his holidays he often worked as a voluntary helper at Leach's pottery at St. Ives in Cornwall, where he became a very competent and artistic practical potter, and he installed a wheel and kiln in his own home. By his untimely death his hospital and Canadian pathology have lost a highly skilled and conscientious pathologist; and, even more, those who had the privilege of his friendship will mourn deeply the loss of this modest, gentle, generous man, and will wish to express their sympathy to his wife Sandra and their daughter and two sons.—R. A. W.

W. I. H. writes: Dr. John W. Whittick came to Canada in 1956 to take charge of the laboratory in the Grey Nuns' Hospital in Regina, Saskatchewan. The reputation which preceded him was an enviable one; that it was fully deserved and that Saskatchewan had gained the services of a man of unusual distinction soon became clear. In Regina Dr. Whittick worked tirelessly to raise and maintain at a high level the standard of pathology in the Grey Nuns' Hospital. He co-operated closely with the staff of the Regina Cancer Clinic, who soon came to rely implicitly on his judgment. His opinion was sought by pathologists far beyond the boundaries of Saskatchewan. It is a measure of his achievement that in the space of six years he had become accepted as an unquestionable authority in his field and at the same time had won the respect and admiration of his colleagues as a man of the highest personal integrity. His naturally retiring personality could not conceal a wealth of generosity and kindness, which inspired immediate loyalty in all who came into close contact with him. His laboratory staff respected him as their chief but loved him as a friend and were never disappointed in seeking his counsel and help.

Away from the hospital John found his greatest pleasure in the countryside. His earlier attachment to Cornwall was gradually transferred to a worthy successor in British Columbia. An annual holiday with his family on Vancouver Island never failed to bring him back to Regina refreshed and clearly revitalized. Latterly he developed a passionate fondness for horses, and both he and his younger son were enthusiastic members of the Regina Riding Club. At home the Whitticks were a closely knit family, and a visitor could not fail to be impressed by the atmosphere of happiness and well-being. Nor could one fail to notice the many beautiful things, particularly of painting and pottery, which they so obviously appreciated and treasured. Pottery was John's own special love, and he was himself

no mean exponent of the art. He was, in short, a man whose memory will continue to live and inspire all those who knew him, and will be cherished with pride and love by his wife and three children.

G. V. A. GRIFFITH, M.D.

The death occurred on March 16 in Dublin of Dr. G. V. A. Griffith at the age of 59.

Gerald Victor Alexander Griffith, who graduated in medicine at Trinity College, Dublin, in 1926, spent almost all of his medical career in the Colonial Medical Service in Hong Kong, where he was first appointed in 1930. He proceeded M.D. in 1934.

Before the second world war he held a number of interesting posts in the medical services of the Colony and was especially associated with the Kowloon Hospital, for which he retained a particular affection throughout his service. His work in this hospital was of great variety, and Dr. Griffith brought to it his considerable skill as a physician, surgeon, obstetrician, and gynaecologist together with a kindness and understanding which his many patients remember with gratitude and affection. After the Japanese occupation of the Colony in December, 1941, Dr. Griffith managed, despite many privations, to get away during 1942. Later in the war he served at Fort Jamieson in Northern Rhodesia until he returned to Hong Kong at the end of 1945.

He was promoted to senior medical officer in 1950 and to assistant director of medical services in 1955. Thereafter his experience, wise judgment, and tireless work were devoted to the administrative tasks of medicine which these promotions entailed. He did not spare himself in the course of duty and contributed much to the complex and rapidly growing medical services provided by the Hong Kong Government.

Dr. Griffith retired from Hong Kong in 1959 after more than 29 years' service in the Colony, but soon afterwards accepted another post in H.M. Overseas Civil Service as director of medical services in British Honduras. This he held with distinction for three years. One of the most exacting tasks he faced during this period was the restoration of the medical and health services after the devastation of the territory by "Hurricane Hattie." The demands made on him at that time left him in a state of poor health, from which he never fully recovered.

Dr. Griffith finally retired in 1962, when he returned to settle in Ireland, but unhappily his retirement was to be enjoyed for only a little more than a year before he died after a short illness. Heartfelt sympathies are extended to his widow, Barbara, and two married daughters.—A. H. R. C.

BERTHA M. MULES, M.D.

Dr. Bertha M. Mules died on April 6 at her home in Teignmouth, Devon, aged 94.

Born at Kingsbridge in Devon in 1868, Bertha Mary Mules studied for several years at Kreuznach in Germany, becoming an accomplished linguist before the age of 20—a great advantage to her in her later studies. In 1886 her parents moved to Court Hall, Kenton, near Exeter, where they took over a licensed house for mental patients, and in due course she and her sister Dr. Anne Mules succeeded them in the running of this establishment. Realizing that a medical qualification would be essential in the future if her work was to be of any significance, she studied at the London School of Medicine for Women, and graduated M.B., B.S. Durham in 1906 and proceeded M.D. in 1908. She was a member of the Royal Medico-Psychological Association, a member of the B.M.A. for 56 years, a member of the Psychological Medicine Group of the B.M.A., and had been an active member of the Medical Women's Federation since its start in 1917. As a vice-president of the Marie Curie Hospital, founded by medical women in 1929, she took a great interest in its work, playing a large

part in the raising of funds to endow the Devon bed at that hospital for the free treatment of Devon women.

During the first world war, as a result of the acute shortage of doctors, in addition to her own work at Court Hall Dr. Mules acted as the general practitioner for a large area around Kenton, and as the medical officer for the Royal Western Counties Hospital for mental defectives at Starcross, where she helped to institute and encourage the system of the patients going out to work on licence. During this time her sister Dr. Anne Mules was taking her medical course, and qualified in 1918. Together the two sisters expanded the work at Kenton, opening an extension at Cliffden, Teignmouth, in 1927, and in 1939 yet another at Rowdens, Teignmouth; Court Hall itself was closed in 1947.

Dr. Mules was a most outstanding woman. She was an accomplished pianist even as a girl and was also an artist of considerable ability. It was, however, in her care of the mentally ill that she was most remarkable and showed such foresight, making her establishments almost unique. At a time when custodial care was the rule for mental patients she was a pioneer in the attitude she adopted towards them. She was their friend, no stigma was attached to them, restrictions were few, doors unlocked, and parole was the general rule. To be admitted to one of her houses was to go to a place where love and happiness ruled. Seldom could one enter a place where such devotion by staff and patients alike was shown to the head of an establishment.

Dr. Mules was joined at Cliffden in later years by her nephew, Dr. Roger Mules, and her work there is being ably carried on under his care.—A. A. L.

ALEXANDER KING, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Dr. Alexander King, who had practised until two years ago in Bloxwich, Staffordshire, died at his home at Essington, Wolverhampton, on April 23. He was 62 years of age.

Alexander King was born in Wishaw on April 13, 1901. Graduating M.B., Ch.B. at the University of Glasgow in 1923, he obtained the D.P.H. in the following year. He was house-surgeon at Kilmarnock Infirmary and for a short period an assistant at Cumnock, Ayrshire. He then joined Drs. Drabble and Gilchrist in partnership and succeeded to the senior partnership in 1958. He served on the local medical committee from its inception.

During the war he was very active in civil defence in Walsall, and for many years was an examiner for the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

Dr. King was a bachelor, for whom his practice became his life; as a partner his dependability and kindliness were an unforgettable example. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him.—T. R. G.

HENRY WALMSLEY, M.B., Ch.B.

Dr. Henry Walmsley, who had practised in Blackburn since 1946, died on April 24 at the early age of 49.

A colleague writes: The passing at so early an age and at the height of his career of Dr. Walmsley has been a source of deep sorrow to his fellow practitioners, his patients, and his wide circle of friends. Henry Walmsley was born in Blackburn, the son of a well-known local dentist. Educated at Blackburn Grammar School, he studied medicine at Manchester University, graduating in March, 1940. He was house-surgeon at Bradford Royal Infirmary until September of that year, when he volunteered for active service and was immediately accepted by the R.A.M.C.

Harry Walmsley had a distinguished Army career. Proceeding overseas in the spring of 1941 he spent the next five years in Malaya, India, and Burma, and in 1944 was appointed Divisional D.A.D.M.S.

After demobilization in 1946 he returned to his native town and entered general practice in partnership with the late Dr. Byrom Leigh. He soon attained a reputation as a competent and kindly family doctor, with a high degree

of diagnostic acumen and clinical skill. A man of strict principle and deep religious conviction, he hated cant, pompous officialdom, and bumbledom, but was invariably fair in his judgments and prepared to listen to both sides of an argument. He was a sturdy individualist, intensely proud of his nationality, a sentiment not, alas, shared in some quarters nowadays, and of the fact that he was Lancashire born and bred. He was an avid reader of history and an acknowledged authority on the Elizabethan and Stuart periods. A great raconteur, he could with equal facility reel off Shakespeare or Shelley, or delve into his seemingly inexhaustible fund of stories and anecdotes.

He faced his long and painful illness with infinite courage, knowing full well that he was fighting a losing battle, and that his days were numbered. To his widow and three young sons we extend our sincere sympathy.

Epidemiology

Smallpox in Stockholm

According to press reports there has been a small outbreak of smallpox in Stockholm, where the infection has not been seen for many years. A woman, aged 57, died of smallpox on April 23. She had been nursing an elderly woman who had been seeing a Swedish seaman from Jakarta. Another woman, a waitress, who had been in contact with the fatal case, also contracted the disease, and other contacts also became infected or suspected cases. On May 18, after the outbreak had reached a total of 10 confirmed or suspected cases, a further two women were removed to hospital for observation. Travellers from Sweden to Finland must show evidence of recent vaccination.

Cholera and Smallpox in Asia

A severe epidemic of cholera is reported at Calcutta. During the week ended April 27 there were 578 cases with 169 deaths. The numbers of cases in the previous seven weeks were 292, 151, 88, 106, 71, 48, and 29. In the district of West Bengal known as 24-Parganas there were 187 cases of cholera with 86 deaths in the week March 24-30.

In Pakistan, in the region of Dacca, a smallpox epidemic is continuing. In the week April 21-27 there were 208 cases with 173 deaths. During the previous eight weeks the numbers of cases, with deaths in parentheses, were as follows: 385 (332), 317 (262), 241 (204), 255 (220), 155 (117), 42 (26), 34 (17), 17 (8).—W.H.O. *Weekly Epidemiological Record*, May 10.

International Certificates of Vaccination Against Smallpox and Cholera

In order to save time and trouble the Ministry of Health is sending a supply of international certificates of vaccination against smallpox and cholera to executive councils. Doctors whose patients need immunization before going abroad will be able to obtain forms from their local executive councils. The issue of certificates of vaccine against yellow fever is made only through certain special centres.

Paratyphoid from Imported Egg Products

In answer to a series of questions in Parliament on May 13 about paratyphoid and imported eggs, Mr. B. Braine, Parliamentary Secretary of the Ministry of Health, said that 26 cases of paratyphoid B had been reported in England and Wales in the week ended May 4. He could not say how long it would take to complete the consultations concerning the pasteurization of all frozen liquid egg in bulk imported from China. Unless it was pasteurized, liquid egg now here would be held in store or recalled. Mr. Braine stated in another answer that eight shipments of Chinese frozen liquid eggs had arrived in England since October, 1962. These reached the Port of London on October 25, November 12 and 29, December 12 and 28, 1962, and April